

THE CHARGER

EDITORIAL

Charger aims to serve students, community

The Charger is Wabaunsee High School's student newspaper. Our goal as staff is to inform readers in the school and community about events in the district, advocate for students and entertain the readers.

As an independent student publication, the Charger's freedom of press is protected by the Kansas Student Publications Act. This means

The editorial is the opinion of the Charger staff. Send letters to the editor to whscharger@gmail.com.

our views do not necessarily reflect those of USD 329. It also protects our rights to advocate for students, even when the topics may be controversial.

The Charger, along with the yearbook and the Senioritis podcast, is produced entirely by students. Students come up with story ideas as a class and make all editorial decisions. We conduct interviews and research stories. We consider which stories are important to students, faculty and the community. We take photos, edit stories and design the paper.

While it can be a lot of work, it is very rewarding. This year we hope to cover the effects of schedule changes, newly implemented rules and other challenges in the district and community.

There are many ways to access The Charger. Copies of the paper will be distributed to AB classes every week. You can also find The Charger in The Signal-Enterprise and at whscharger.com. For additional content, subscribe to the Senioritis podcast or follow whscharger on Twitter, Instagram and Facebook.

We want our readers to interact with our publications as well. Please send comments, ideas or letters to the editor to whscharger@gmail.com. We welcome guest writers, photographers and artists. The Charger belongs to all of the students, even if they aren't in the class.

Journalism is a useful resource to high schoolers, not only those participating but also for the student readers and the community. We hope to do a great job covering WHS this year.

The Charger

The Charger is an open forum for student free speech. Send letters to the editor, story ideas or pictures to whscharger@gmail.com. The Charger is distributed free to WHS students and faculty. Read online at whscharger.com or follow @whscharger on Twitter, Instagram and Facebook. Find Senioritis, the Charger podcast, on iTunes or at whscharger.com.

MEET THE CHARGER STAFF



Hannah Mumpower, Brendan Dugger, Austin Henderson, Kendyl Bolinder, Mayah Mumpower, Lauren Schutter, Emma Frey, Kaytlyn Meseke and Eleanor Badeker. Not pictured: Laurel Barber.

EDITORS IN CHIEF

Eleanor Badeker, senior
Twitter: @ellybadeker
3 years in journalism
"I joined journalism originally to please my mother, but I've stayed in the class because it is such a fun, open-minded environment."
Beats: FCCLA, Scholar's Bowl, Forensics, Art, District Office, Maintenance

Kaytlyn Meseke, senior
Insta: kaytlyn.meseke, Twitter @kaytlyn_nelle
3 years in journalism
"I really thought joining the newspaper sounded fun my sophomore year, but then I started to enjoy it and decided to keep doing it"
Beats: Tennis, NHS, FACS, Journalism, AES/MHES

STAFF WRITERS

Kendyl Bolinder, junior
Twitter: @Bolinderkendyl
2 years in journalism
"My mom put a lot of pressure on me to take it, but it turned out I was actually pretty decent at it."
Beats: Softball, Yellow Ribbon, Music

Emma Frey, junior
@_emmafrey_
2 years in journalism
"I enjoy writing and I like the different experiences you gain through journalism."
Beats: Football, Cheer, Applied Technology

Hannah Mumpower, Senior
Twitter: @Hlmump01
2 years in journalism
"I joined journalism because I was good at writing and it sounded like a fun thing to be a part of. I came back this year because I loved environment and atmosphere we had and I found out that it was a super fun class."
Beats: Wrestling, KAYs, Science, Spanish, Music

Brendan Dugger, senior
1st year in journalism
"I joined because I needed to fill a class spot and newspaper seemed like a good class and I heard good things about it."
Beats: Track, Skills USA, Math, and Technology

Mayah Mumpower, sophomore
Twitter: @MayahMumpower
1st year in journalism
"I joined journalism because I enjoy writing. It sounded like a fun class to take and I knew I would get a great experience out of it."
Beats: Girls Basketball, Baseball, Stuco, and Social Studies

Lauren Schutter, Sophomore
Twitter: @schutterlauren, Instagram: @lauren.schutter
1st year in journalism
"I decided to join journalism because I enjoy reading and writing, plus it seems like a fun class and a good experience."
Beats: Volleyball, Boys Basketball, FCA, English, and PJH/PMS.

Austin Henderson, Junior
1st year in journalism
"I haven't been the best at writing stories, so I thought this might be a good opportunity to improve my skills in this type of field. Plus with the new class schedules, I thought it would be a good pick."
Beats: Cross Country, Drama, SADD/SAFE, FFA, Ag

Laurel Barber, senior
Twitter: @Lawl_e_20
3 years in journalism
"I wanted to be in journalism because I wanted to learn more about the students problems and I wanted to be a part of what the students of WHS read."
Beats: FBLA, Fitness Club, Physical Education

HIGH SCHOOL SURVIVAL GUIDE

Kaytlyn Meseke
@kaytlyn_nelle

High school is an odd time of a teenagers life. They're learning more about themselves, exploring relationships and trying new things. High school is a time to make memories, create new friendships, get more involved in sports and clubs and even possibly get a job. This is all a lot for not only freshmen, but all students. So welcome to Kaytlyn's Declassified School Survival Guide to learn all of the do's and don'ts to WHS.

DO'S:

- Be yourself; it's okay to be different or even "weird".
- Take notes and pay attention in class, you won't fail if you try. It's not cool to be dumb anymore.
- Make memories and enjoy yourself the four years you have because it's a great time to learn from mistakes and make lifelong friendships.
- Always have a hoodie in your locker because Mr. Rutledge keeps his room cold like the North Pole for 3/4 of the school year.

- Keep in mind that the teachers want you to be successful and pass their class, mainly because they don't want you in their class again next year, but also they are just preparing you for college and life after high school.
- Be prepared for class. Have a pencil or pen, some notebook paper and your iPad fully charged.
- Don't annoy the upperclassmen. Or the underclassmen. Really, don't be annoying in general. We're stressed enough already.
- Shut up about Fortnite.
- Do get involved in different clubs, but know your limits so you don't end up overwhelming yourself with many responsibilities.
- Maybe get a mechanical pencil if you have a fear of being embarrassed while sharpening your pencil because so many things could go wrong while using that loud pencil eating machine.
- Do get into drama, and by this I mean Mr. Praeger's drama class not the gossip that goes around the school (it's not fun to be in that type of drama).

DON'TS:

- Don't think you are better than anyone. Stay humble and learn from any age.
- High school relationships can be fun, but don't let it distract you from your grades, sports or other extracurricular activities.
- Try not to say stupid stuff, otherwise you could end up on Mr. Davis' "Door of Shame"
- Don't do stupid things, it's not worth it and it's not cool. You know not to drink and drive, smoke weed, destroy property or vape in the school bathroom, so don't do it.
- Don't procrastinate. Get your assignments done. Time management is something you will learn throughout the year. Also getting ZAPped isn't a big deal, just get it done before it really becomes a problem.
- Don't be on the third floor alone, otherwise you might experience a little paranormal activity.
- Don't cut off your finger in the woodshop because you need all 10 of those to do all of Mrs. Hull's homework packets.
- Don't drop your Hydroflask and

start screaming "sksksk" or "and I oop-". They are made for keeping your ice in your drink on a hot summer day, not for a fun Tik Tok trend.

- Don't be afraid to speak up about your opinion, but be respectful of who is talking at the time and listen to their opinion.
- Also don't be afraid of the phrase "Put away calculators 3 minute quiz" from the one and only Mr. Alderman. The quiz isn't anything to stress about, instead it's an easy chance to get a few extra points to help your grade.

Have fun in high school because you are here to learn and grow, but don't get carried away with it. These 4 years will go quickly, if they haven't already for some of you, so make memories and don't get focused on all of the drama, you will truly regret wasting a day of school by getting caught up in the negative. Just keep in mind this quote from Dwight Schrute when it comes to making choices during your time at WHS: "Whenever I'm about to do something, I think, 'Would an idiot do that?' And if they would, I do not do that thing."